



JPW
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR(S) : Thomas K. Milo
TITLE : **DOOR LATCH ACTUATOR**
APPLICATION NO. : 10/782,690
FILED : February 19, 2004
CONFIRMATION NO. : 4648
EXAMINER : Gary Wayne Estremsky
ART UNIT : 3676
LAST OFFICE ACTION : December 13, 2004
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : TKMZ 2 00008

Cleveland, OH 44114

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In an Office Action mailed December 13, 2004, the Examiner indicated that the subject application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Group I - the embodiment illustrated in Fig 1 for example.

Group II - the embodiment illustrated in Fig 8 for example.

Group III - the embodiment illustrated in Fig 19 for example.

In this response, Applicant elects species of Group I for prosecution on the merits. Claims 1, 2, 5-14, 17-19, 21 and 22 are readable on the species of Group I. The aforementioned claims, with the exception of claim 18, are also generic to all species. As indicated by the Examiner, upon the allowance of a generic claim,

Applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim.

This election is made with traverse for the reason that search and examination of the entire application can be made without burden even though the application may include claims to independent or distinct inventions. All formal and informal matters have been addressed. The application is now in good order for examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & McKEE, LLP



January 13, 2005
Date

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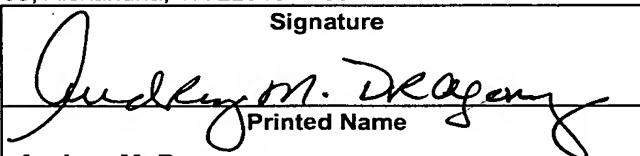
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